

Division of Veterans Services

Analyst: Austin

Historical Summary

OPERATING BUDGET	FY 2008 Total App	FY 2008 Actual	FY 2009 Approp	FY 2010 Request	FY 2010 Gov Rec
BY FUND CATEGORY					
General	1,720,900	1,547,500	1,803,800	2,222,200	1,633,800
Dedicated	14,055,800	12,688,400	15,076,200	16,032,200	15,251,000
Federal	18,676,600	7,384,300	18,621,000	19,183,800	18,945,300
Total:	34,453,300	21,620,200	35,501,000	37,438,200	35,830,100
Percent Change:		(37.2%)	64.2%	5.5%	0.9%
BY OBJECT OF EXPENDITURE					
Personnel Costs	16,337,500	14,767,400	17,352,400	18,418,400	17,491,100
Operating Expenditures	17,527,600	6,263,000	17,499,000	18,446,300	17,878,300
Capital Outlay	513,600	547,000	585,000	508,200	410,300
Trustee/Benefit	74,600	42,800	64,600	65,300	50,400
Total:	34,453,300	21,620,200	35,501,000	37,438,200	35,830,100
Full-Time Positions (FTP)	307.30	307.30	307.30	308.80	310.30

Division Description

The Division of Veteran's Services has the responsibility to provide care and extend financial assistance to disabled and destitute Idaho wartime veterans and their dependents. Services include: managing and operating the Veteran's Homes; maintaining a Veteran's Service Office to assist veterans and their families in obtaining federal benefits to which they are entitled; and extending emergency financial assistance to disabled or destitute veterans and their families.

The Idaho State Veterans Cemetery has the mission to inter eligible veterans and their dependents, to appropriately mark and record gravesites, and to maintain the cemetery as a place of honor for veterans as well as a place of remembrance and reflection for the citizens of Idaho.

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Comparative Summary

Decision Unit	Agency Request			Governor's Rec		
	FTP	General	Total	FTP	General	Total
FY 2009 Original Appropriation	307.30	1,803,800	35,501,000	307.30	1,803,800	35,501,000
Omnibus Rescission	0.00	0	0	0.00	(72,100)	(72,100)
Health Insurance Reduction	0.00	0	0	0.00	(14,400)	(153,700)
FY 2009 Total Appropriation	307.30	1,803,800	35,501,000	307.30	1,717,300	35,275,200
Removal of One-Time Expenditures	0.00	0	(11,089,700)	0.00	0	(11,089,700)
Base Adjustments	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0
Additional Base Adjustment	0.00	0	0	0.00	(68,700)	(6,100)
FY 2010 Base	307.30	1,803,800	24,411,300	307.30	1,648,600	24,179,400
Benefit Costs	0.00	32,600	313,700	0.00	18,200	160,000
Inflationary Adjustments	0.00	11,000	699,000	0.00	4,200	397,600
Replacement Items	0.00	52,600	409,500	0.00	0	329,400
Statewide Cost Allocation	0.00	(200)	(1,300)	0.00	(200)	(1,300)
Change in Employee Compensation	0.00	41,700	418,300	0.00	0	0
Endowment Adjustments	0.00	(37,000)	0	0.00	(37,000)	0
FY 2010 Program Maintenance	307.30	1,904,500	26,250,500	307.30	1,633,800	25,065,100
1. Salary Increase - Market Demand	0.00	19,500	231,900	0.00	0	0
2. Southeast Idaho Veterans Cemetery	0.00	250,000	10,750,000	0.00	0	10,500,000
3. New Positions	1.50	35,600	112,300	0.00	0	0
4. Additional Capital Outlay	0.00	12,600	93,500	0.00	0	80,900
5. Veterans Education Program	0.00	0	0	3.00	0	184,100
FY 2010 Total	308.80	2,222,200	37,438,200	310.30	1,633,800	35,830,100
Change from Original Appropriation	1.50	418,400	1,937,200	3.00	(170,000)	329,100
% Change from Original Appropriation		23.2%	5.5%		(9.4%)	0.9%

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Budget by Decision Unit	FTP	General	Dedicated	Federal	Total
FY 2009 Original Appropriation	307.30	1,803,800	15,076,200	18,621,000	35,501,000
Omnibus Rescission					
Agency Request	0.00	0	0	0	0
<i>General Fund holdbacks, as directed by Executive Orders 2008-3, and 2008-5, are incorporated as a rescission that reduces the General Fund by 4% for FY 2009.</i>					
Governor's Recommendation	0.00	(72,100)	0	0	(72,100)
Health Insurance Reduction					
Agency Request	0.00	0	0	0	0
<i>The Governor recommends reducing the funding for health insurance by \$500 per FTP, using reserves to offset the increased costs of health insurance for the state for FY 2009 and FY 2010.</i>					
Governor's Recommendation	0.00	(14,400)	(93,900)	(45,400)	(153,700)
FY 2009 Total Appropriation					
Agency Request	307.30	1,803,800	15,076,200	18,621,000	35,501,000
Governor's Recommendation	307.30	1,717,300	14,982,300	18,575,600	35,275,200
Removal of One-Time Expenditures					
Agency Request	0.00	0	(372,400)	(10,717,300)	(11,089,700)
Governor's Recommendation	0.00	0	(372,400)	(10,717,300)	(11,089,700)
Base Adjustments					
Agency Request	0.00	0	0	0	0
<i>This decision unit provides a \$29,500 object transfer from personnel to operating in the General Fund and \$29,500 from operating to personnel in the federal fund.</i>					
Governor's Recommendation	0.00	0	0	0	0
Additional Base Adjustment					
Agency Request	0.00	0	0	0	0
<i>The Governor recommends an ongoing base reduction to balance the state budget. This represents an additional 3.8% reduction for the agency bringing the FY 2010 Base 8.6% below the ongoing FY 2009 General Fund Original Appropriation.</i>					
Governor's Recommendation	0.00	(68,700)	0	62,600	(6,100)
FY 2010 Base					
Agency Request	307.30	1,803,800	14,703,800	7,903,700	24,411,300
Governor's Recommendation	307.30	1,648,600	14,609,900	7,920,900	24,179,400
Benefit Costs					
<i>Provides \$900 per position, which equates to a 10.4% increase for employer-paid health insurance. Also, includes a 19% reduction in life and disability insurance rates from 1.1% to 0.9% of salary for eligible employees.</i>					
Agency Request	0.00	32,600	185,100	96,000	313,700
<i>The Governor recommends providing an increase of \$400 per FTP and making changes to the health insurance benefits contract to meet expected costs. Including the rescission to reduce health insurance benefit costs in FY 2009 by \$500 per FTP, employer costs per FTP for FY 2010 will be \$8,600.</i>					
Governor's Recommendation	0.00	18,200	91,200	50,600	160,000
Inflationary Adjustments					
<i>Inflationary increases are calculated using the ongoing base for operating expenditures and trustee & benefit payments multiplied by an agency-specific inflation factor. The inflationary adjustment reflects a 0.6% increase in the General Fund and a 2.8% increase in total funds. The requested amount includes \$367,700 for general inflation; \$297,900 for medical inflation; and \$33,400 for contract inflation.</i>					
Agency Request	0.00	11,000	412,800	275,200	699,000
<i>General Fund inflationary increases are not recommended with the exception of medical inflation. General inflation increases are recommended only for utilities. The Governor also recommends contract inflation increases except for the General Fund portion.</i>					
Governor's Recommendation	0.00	4,200	237,300	156,100	397,600

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Budget by Decision Unit	FTP	General	Dedicated	Federal	Total
Replacement Items					
Replacement capital outlay includes \$8,100 for desk top computers, \$147,000 for laptop computers, \$13,000 for mowing/landscaping equipment, \$41,500 for vehicle replacement, \$20,000 for medical and laboratory equipment, \$1,700 for office equipment, \$105,300 for resident/household/kitchen equipment, \$3,000 for shop equipment, and \$69,900 for telephone systems.					
Agency Request	0.00	52,600	288,900	68,000	409,500
<i>The Governor does not recommend General Fund items totaling \$52,600 including: two printers, \$700; a multi function printer, \$2,900; a file server, \$13,000; a utility cart, \$13,000; a forklift, \$20,000; and tools, \$3,000. Additionally, the Governor recommends \$14,000 of the original \$41,500 dedicated funds request for vehicle replacement.</i>					
Governor's Recommendation	0.00	0	261,400	68,000	329,400
Statewide Cost Allocation					
The request includes adjustments to recover the costs of services provided to state agencies: a reduction of \$20,900 for Attorney General fees; \$600 for property and casualty insurance premiums; \$16,100 for State Controller fees; \$2,900 for State Treasurer fees.					
Agency Request	0.00	(200)	(700)	(400)	(1,300)
Governor's Recommendation	0.00	(200)	(700)	(400)	(1,300)
Change in Employee Compensation					
Agencies were instructed to calculate a 3% salary increase in the appropriation request.					
Agency Request	0.00	41,700	253,400	123,200	418,300
<i>While increasing salaries of state workers continues to be a priority for the Governor, the current economic situation does not provide the funds to recommend an increase in FY 2010. When economic conditions improve, the Governor will once again seek to improve compensation for all state employees.</i>					
Governor's Recommendation	0.00	0	0	0	0
Endowment Adjustments					
Requesting increased spending authority due to an increase in Endowment earnings.					
Agency Request	0.00	(37,000)	37,000	0	0
Governor's Recommendation	0.00	(37,000)	37,000	0	0
FY 2010 Program Maintenance					
Agency Request	307.30	1,904,500	15,880,300	8,465,700	26,250,500
Governor's Recommendation	307.30	1,633,800	15,236,100	8,195,200	25,065,100
1. Salary Increase - Market Demand					
Additional 3% funding is being requested for prevailing market rate issues for nursing, physical therapy, and landscape technicians.					
Agency Request	0.00	19,500	137,000	75,400	231,900
<i>Not recommended by the Governor.</i>					
Governor's Recommendation	0.00	0	0	0	0
2. Southeast Idaho Veterans Cemetery					
Funding is being requested for a new cemetery facility to be located in southeastern Idaho for the interment of veterans and veterans spouses. One-time federal funds in the amount of \$10,500,000 will be provided by the Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Grants Program. To receive the cemetery grant for the additional veterans cemetery, the state must prepare an environmental assessment at an estimated cost of \$250,000 to determine whether an environmental impact statement will be needed. This is the third year this request has been made for either a north Idaho or eastern Idaho site. Veterans Services is now looking more closely at southeastern Idaho, although site determination has not yet been made. Three potential locations include Pocatello, Blackfoot, and Idaho Falls.					
Agency Request	0.00	250,000	0	10,500,000	10,750,000
<i>The Governor does not recommend funding the environmental assessment.</i>					
Governor's Recommendation	0.00	0	0	10,500,000	10,500,000

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3. New Positions					
One FTE is being requested for a senior IT information technician due to increased use of complex information systems, and .5 FTP for a veterans service officer to provide outreach to cover the newly opened Federal VA clinic in Caldwell and surrounding area.					
Agency Request	1.50	35,600	0	76,700	112,300
<i>Not recommended by the Governor.</i>					
Governor's Recommendation	0.00	0	0	0	0
4. Additional Capital Outlay					
Additional capital outlay items include a riding mower, San Solution for disaster plan, therapy/restorative equipment, computer improvements for remote server control, recliners, defibrillator, water softener, can opener, and lid racks.					
Agency Request	0.00	12,600	14,900	66,000	93,500
<i>The Governor does not recommend funding of \$12,600 for the commercial-grade mower, the General Fund portion of this request.</i>					
Governor's Recommendation	0.00	0	14,900	66,000	80,900
5. Veterans Education Program					
Agency Request	0.00	0	0	0	0
<i>The Governor supports consolidation of all federal veterans support services to be under the Division of Veterans Services, and therefore recommends the transfer of the Veterans Education Program, currently located in Professional-Technical Education, to the Division of Veterans Services. Consolidation will provide efficiencies and one central location for veterans to seek assistance programs. The corresponding reduction for this transfer is line item number six in the Professional-Technical Education Related Services budget.</i>					
Governor's Recommendation	3.00	0	0	184,100	184,100
FY 2010 Total					
Agency Request	308.80	2,222,200	16,032,200	19,183,800	37,438,200
Governor's Recommendation	310.30	1,633,800	15,251,000	18,945,300	35,830,100
Agency Request					
Change from Original App	1.50	418,400	956,000	562,800	1,937,200
% Change from Original App	0.5%	23.2%	6.3%	3.0%	5.5%
<i>Governor's Recommendation</i>					
Change from Original App	3.00	(170,000)	174,800	324,300	329,100
% Change from Original App	1.0%	(9.4%)	1.2%	1.7%	0.9%